

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A anti-scald Roman bathtub plumbing system for use with ~~a the~~ fill spout and sprayer, comprising:
  - a Roman bathtub deck;
  - a primary hot water supply pipe;
  - a primary cold water supply pipe;
  - a hot water control valve ~~mounted to the bathtub deck and~~ fluidically connected to the primary hot water supply pipe;
  - a cold water control valve ~~mounted to the bathtub deck and~~ fluidically connected to the primary cold water supply pipe;
  - a spout fluidically connected to the primary hot and cold water pipes downstream of the hot and cold water control valves and fluidically connected to the cold water control valve; and
  - a thermostatic tempering valve fluidically connected ~~between~~ to the primary hot water supply pipe at a location upstream of the hot water valve and the spout; wherein the thermostatic tempering valve operates to provide a maximum limit to the flow of hot water to the spout such that the spout outputs water characterized by a temperature below a predetermined maximum temperature.
2. (Currently Amended) The plumbing system of claim 1 wherein the thermostatic tempering valve is also fluidically connected to the primary cold water supply pipe, the thermostatic tempering valve further ~~comprises~~ an inner chamber adapted to intermix hot and cold water; ~~wherein the thermostatic tempering valve is connected between the cold~~

~~water supply pipe and the spout~~; wherein the thermostatic tempering valve supplies water to the spout; and wherein the thermostatic tempering valve reduces pressure fluctuations of the water supplied to the spout.

3. (Currently Amended) The plumbing system of claim 1 further including a hand held shower sprayer extendably coupled to the bathtub deck; and a flexible hose hydraulically connecting the hand held shower sprayer to the thermostatic tempering valve; wherein the thermostatic tempering valve ~~is connected to supply~~es water to the hand held shower sprayer and ~~wherein the thermostatic tempering valve is connected to~~ limits the temperature of the water supplied to the hand held shower.

4. (Original) The plumbing system of claim 1 wherein the thermostatic tempering valve further comprises an inner chamber adapted to intermix hot and cold water, wherein the thermostatic tempering valve supplies water to the spout, wherein the thermostatic tempering valve balances the temperature of the water supplied to the spout, and wherein the thermostatic tempering valve balances the pressure of the water supplied to the spout.

5. (Currently Amended) A deck-mounted anti-scald plumbing assembly for a stand-alone bathtub, comprising:

- a free-standing bathtub deck portion;
- ~~a fill member operationally connected to the bathtub deck portion;~~
- a hot water supply ~~connected to the fill member;~~
- a cold water supply ~~connected to the fill member;~~
- hot and cold water control valves connected to ~~between the fill member and the~~ respective hot and cold water supplies;
- a fill member mounted to the bathtub deck portion and coupled to the hot and cold water supplies downstream of the hot and cold water control valves; and
- an anti-scald valve connected in hydraulic communication with at least the hot water source at a position upstream from the hot water valve.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 further comprising a hand held shower sprayer and a flexible hose, wherein the anti-scald valve is connected in hydraulic communication with the cold water supply at a position upstream from the hot water valve, the flexible hose is hydraulically connected to the hand held shower sprayer to the hot and cold water supply via the anti-scald valve; and wherein such that the hand held shower sprayer may be actuated independently of the hot and cold spigot water control valves to actuate a flow of water of characterized by a substantially predetermined maximum temperature.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the anti-scald valve is a thermostatic mixing valve.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~5~~ 6 wherein the hand held shower sprayer includes an actuation valve.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling the temperature and pressure of water flowing into a freestanding bathtub, comprising the steps of:

a) hydraulically connecting hot and cold water inputs of a thermostatic mixing valve to hot and cold water sources, respectively, having an output and a plurality of inputs to a freestanding bathtub deck;

b) hydraulically connecting an output of the thermostatic mixing valve ~~output~~ to a bathtub filler;

c) ~~hydraulically connecting~~ hot and cold water control valves to the respective hot and cold water sources at a position downstream from the thermostatic mixing valve and between the hot and cold water sources and the bathtub filler a hot water source and a cold water source to respective thermostatic mixing valve inputs; and

d) controlledly opening the thermostatic mixing pressure balanced valve to achieve a water flow into the freestanding bathtub through the filler; wherein the water flowing into the bathtub is characterized by a predetermined maximum temperature.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the filler is a hand held shower head; wherein the thermostatic mixing valve is adapted to supply water to the hand held shower head; wherein the water has a predetermined maximum water temperature; and wherein the predetermined maximum water temperature is controlled by the thermostatic mixing valve.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the filler is a spout; wherein the thermostatic mixing valve is adapted to supply water to the spout; wherein the water has a predetermined maximum water temperature; and wherein the predetermined maximum water temperature is controlled by the thermostatic mixing valve.

12. (Currently Amended) A deck-mounted anti-scald plumbing assembly for a stand-alone bathtub, comprising:

- a free-standing bathtub deck portion;
- ~~a fill member operationally connected to the bathtub deck portion;~~
- a hot water supply ~~connected to the fill member;~~
- a cold water supply ~~connected to the fill member;~~
- hot and cold water control valves connected to ~~between the fill member and the~~ respective hot and cold water supplies;
- a fill member mounted to the bathtub deck portion and fluidically coupled to the hot and cold water supplies downstream of the hot and cold water control valves; and
- an anti-scald valve connected in hydraulic communication with at least the hot water source at a location upstream of the hot and cold water control valves; wherein actuation of the fill member provides water below a predetermined temperature.

13. (Original) The assembly of claim 12 wherein the fill member is a spout.

14. (Original) The assembly of claim 12 wherein the fill member is a sprayer.

15. (Original) The assembly of claim 12 wherein the anti-scald valve is a thermostatic

mixing valve.

16. (Original) The assembly of claim 15 wherein the anti-scald valve is a pressure balancing valve.

17. (Original) The assembly if claim 12 wherein the anti-scald valve is a thermostatic mixing valve connected to the cold water supply.

18. (Original) The assembly of claim 17 wherein the anti-scald valve is mounted to the bathtub deck and further includes a handle member extending through the bathtub deck.

19. (Original) The assembly of claim 12 wherein the fill member is a spout and the assembly further comprises a hand-held shower sprayer and a diverter, the diverter coupled to the hot and cold water supplies via the anti-scald valve; the spout and hand-held shower sprayer fluidically coupled to the hot and cold water supplies via the diverter ~~connected between the respective hot and cold water supplies and the hand held shower sprayer.~~

20. (Original) The assembly of claim 19 wherein the diverter is mounted to the bathtub deck and further includes a handle extending through the deck.

21. (Original) The assembly of claim 19 wherein the diverter is integral to the spout.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim ~~22~~ 12 further comprising a hand held shower sprayer and secondary hot and cold water control valves connected between the hand held shower sprayer and the respective hot and cold water supplies and wherein the anti-scald valve is connected ~~between~~ to the hot water supply at a position upstream from ~~and~~ the secondary hot water control valve.

24. (Original) The assembly of claim 12 wherein the fill member is a spout and wherein the anti-scald valve is mounted to the bathtub deck and further comprising a hand held shower sprayer mounted to the bathtub deck and a diverter mounted to the bathtub deck; wherein the diverter further includes a diverter handle member extending through the bathtub deck; wherein the anti-scald valve further includes an anti-scald valve handle extending through the bathtub deck; wherein the diverter is hydraulically connected to the anti-scald valve; and wherein the sprayer is hydraulically connected to the diverter.